

THE ISSUE.

This journal has several times expressed the opinion that the next great issue before the people would be the people vs. monopoly. But while so stating we have treated the subject with the dignity becoming it. We have not called the railroad companies "robbers," "cooperators" or "usurers," for the simple reason that we do not believe them to be such. The railroads in Arizona are conducted on a "high pressure" principle. They place their freight tariff on the necessities of life as high as possible for the reason that the people demand them, and we, as a people, insist upon our wants being satisfied as soon as possible. Consequently the people, or consumers, are in a measure responsible for the high rates. For instance, you patronize the grocer who furnishes you with the freshest and cheapest goods. To do this he must purchase in the nearest market, and ship by the most rapid way. This forces him to ship by railroad and the railroad always wide awake, realizing the position, fixes their rates accordingly. But the people whose enterprise and industry cause this demand rebel against unjust discrimination. And this, in a nutshell, will be the next issue: Will the people or the monopolies rule? This territory, or at least so far as the most prosperous portion is concerned, depends commercially upon one line, and with this great trunk line in the possession of one company, what protection can the public have against any scheme it may concoct to put up the freight rates? Does this not tend to centralization? What protection have small dealers as against the large ones who make special rates with the railroad company? And is not one but a reflex of the other—a smaller monopoly flourishing in the shadow of the other? Does not this system entirely destroy the principle of fair play and low profits? Will the public consider this matter? These enormous monopolies are so powerful that there can be no competition, small or great. They break up or control the little establishments as well as the large ones; the shipper, the butcher, the grocer, and in the end the family itself. How long can the equity support such a state of affairs as that? What man, if it continues, can say in the course of a few years that he has any rights which the railroads—especially the S. P.—are bound to respect? Now, what is the remedy? You may be a railroad man, but we ask you to consider that fairly and honestly and upon its real merits. You cannot decide in a minute, an hour, or even a day. It has taken the people twenty years to even realize it, and it will require more thought on your part than to play a game of pedro. Then, how long can there be peace, to say nothing of prosperity, without a remedy? Shall it be demonstrated by you, I, and the people, that the results of the late elections meant something? Are the immense masses against bad government, and the utter absence of any government or railroad legislation, to do no good? The voice of the people has been heard through the land, and it should cause monopolies—all monopolies, to ponder, for its echo will come in thunder notes, not the dalliance of a whisper.

It looks very much as though the boasts of the Camerons, of Pennsylvania, that their power is not yet broken, were firmly grounded in truth. Senator Mitchell, who led the revolt against the old machine, is now reported as saying that he does not believe in making further war upon Senator Cameron, and sees no sense in trying to prevent him from being a candidate for the senate, two years hence. The plain English of that is that Senator Mitchell's independence has run out just as soon as he has shown his strength and had its value recognized by the Cameron clan. It is safe to predict that there will not be much more of a revolt in the Republican party of Pennsylvania against the Cameron misrule. The differences between the factions, which all along have been merely a contest for spoils, will be healed and the old regime will be revived. Once again the lion and the lamb will lie down together, with the lamb inside the lion. That is the usual result of the reform within the party that the Republican leaders have been so persistent in urging.

The following is the extraordinary heading with which the Cincinnati Enquirer prefaced the election returns: "Doomsday!—The Grand Old Party—Shivered from End to End!—Thirty-nine Sovereign States have Spoken," and from their Edict

There is no Appeal.—The Lakes Speak to the Rivers, the Mountains to the Sea.—Ring Out, Wild Bells, to the Wild Sky.—The Old Party is Dying; Let it Die!—Ring Out the Old, Ring in the New.—Ring Out the False, Ring in the True!—Move Up, Ohio, and Make Room for Your Sisters!—Room for the Empire State, with 150,000 Majority!—Room for the Keystone State, with 25,000 Majority!—Room for the Old Bay State, with 16,000 Majority!—Room for the Hoosier State, with 10,000 Majority!—Room for the Granite State, with 1,000 Majority!—Room for the Wooden Nutmeg State, with 4,000 Majority!—Room for a Good Many Other States Too Numerous to Mention!—Room in the Capitol for a Democratic House of Representatives!—And Room in the White House for a Democratic President in 1894.

PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL.

We have before us a communication signed "Democrat," the substance of which is that the EPITAPH should use its influence for the election of a democrat to the position of president of the council of the twelfth territorial legislature. We extract the following:

"The greatest enemy of the EPITAPH will accord it the proud position of being one of the most powerful and influential journal in Arizona. Its brilliant and vigorous fight contributed more than anything else to the democratic victory of the late county campaign. But after winning the battle it should not hand the banner over to the republicans, but exert every effort to secure the complete organization of the legislature. I, with many democrats, do not doubt but Mr. Wiley would make a just and able presiding officer, but we are looking at it in purely a political point of view, and as such deem it your duty to support and urge the claims of some good democrat."

As will be observed, "Democrat" insists it is our "duty to support and urge the claims of some good democrat." But as we look at it, our first "duty" is to the people and material interests of the county. The present council is republican, and, according to usage, will be organized by that party by the election of all the officers, and consequently appointment of all the committees. Therefore, to "urge the election of some good democrat" would be sheer folly, as it is not within the range of possibility. Such being the case, we support the republican whose election will contribute most largely to the interests and benefit of Cochise. Such a man we believe the Hon. E. H. Wiley to be. The vote at the late election shows that he was warmly supported by a large number of democrats, his majority of 334 being about the average democratic majority. If the party of which we are a humble member has confidence in his ability and integrity as a legislator, why should not we repose the same faith in him as a presiding officer? He represents the great paramount industry of this section. His honesty and veracity have never been doubted. His business qualifications and executive ability are everywhere admitted. He is a good parliamentarian, a scholar and a gentleman, and if selected to preside over the deliberations of the council will do so with dignity and impartiality to all. He will favor no particular interests to the exclusion or detriment of others, and while ever watchful to advance the general good of the territory, will be faithful and energetic in battling for the rights and advancement of his constituents. Such are our reasons for favoring his election to the honorable position to which his politics assure him, and to which the growing prosperity and great wealth of Cochise entitle him.

The Globe-Democrat says: "There is some prospect that gold will begin to come in from abroad again before long." We are not aware as to the source from which this journal obtained its information, but as it is in general a truthful paper the announcement is hailed with inexpressible delight. We should like to see some gold in from abroad, or any other source, as it is as rare here as a clean coat collar. But apropos of gold, we find from the journal referred to that our merchandise imports in the nine months ended September 30 amounted to \$576,673,274, as against \$497,235,444 in the same period last year, while the exports of domestic merchandise for the same periods respectively amounted to \$509,428,417 and \$604,140,363. Also that it appears from Comptroller Knox's report that the expansion of the currency, which has been going on since 1878, is now very much less rapid than a year or two ago. The money in the country at resumption, January 1, 1879, amounted to \$1,055,357,619; November 1 of that year there was \$1,165,553,503; November 1, 1880, \$1,302,718,726; November 1, 1881, \$1,445,681,702; and November 1, 1882, \$1,488,838,554. During the last year the increase has been only

\$33,000,000, as against \$153,000,000 in the year before. Most of the falling off was in gold, the gain in this item having been only \$5,000,000, as against \$109,000,000 in 1881. All of which the reader thoroughly understands. For our part, it is like the dream of a feast.

CURIOUS PATENTS.

Some investigating person has furnished the New York Times with a brief list of patents, on small things, which, in many instances, have proved great mines of wealth to the lucky discoverer. The list might be extended to a much larger number, but we only state those given in the Times. Among these trifles is the favorite toy—the "return ball"—a wooden ball with an elastic string attached, selling for ten cents each, but yielding to its patentee an income equal to \$50,000 a year. The rubber tip on the end of lead pencils affords the owner of the royalty an independent fortune. The inventor of the gummed newspaper wrapper is also a rich man. The gimlet pointed screw has evolved more wealth than most silver mines, and the man who first thought of putting copper tips to children's shoes is as well off as if his father had left him \$2,000,000 in United States bonds. Although roller skates are not so much used in countries where ice is abundant, in South America, especially in Brazil, they are very highly esteemed, and have yielded over \$1,000,000 to their inventor. But he had to spend \$125,000 in England, alone, fighting infringements. The "dancing Jim Crow," a toy, provides an annual income of \$75,000 to its inventor, and the common needle threader is worth \$10,000 a year to the man who thought of it. The "drive wheel" was an idea of Colonel Green, whose troops, during the war, were in want of water. He conceived the notion of driving a two-inch tube into the ground until water was reached and then attaching a pump. This simple contrivance was patented after the war, and the tens of thousands of farmers who have adopted it have been obliged to pay him a royalty, a moderate estimate of which is placed at \$3,000,000. The spring window shade yields an income of \$100,000 a year; the stylograph pen also brings in \$100,000 yearly; the marking pen, for shading in different colors, \$100,000; rubber stamps, the same. A very large fortune has been reaped by a western miner, who, ten years since, invented a metal rivet or eyelet at each end of the mouth of coat and pants pockets, to resist the strain caused by the carriage of pieces of ore and heavy tools.

The senate last summer appointed a committee to investigate the relations of capital and labor, with special reference to a comparison between American and European wages, and strikes and their causes. We await that report with a pardonable degree of curiosity. We are very much interested in the question of capital and labor, particularly the capital. And if the forthcoming report will indicate any way by which it may be obtained without too much familiar dalliance with labor, they will certainly supply "a long felt want."

The Democrats who have won the late splendid victory, should remember that their party has before it the opportunity of possessing the government of the United States, and of remaining in such possession, on good behavior. It will be worth something, in the future, to have a good Democratic record. Taking the year of grace 1882 as the starting point—as a sort of Jubilee episode—political consistency will count for much. All delinquencies to that date will be ignored. Let no aspiring Democrat or defeated Independent fancy that, hereafter, he can play fast and loose with the party, and betray it at his leisure, with no loss of prestige or party standing. Should he essay the treacherous experiment, he will find himself ruled out by an iron wall composed of Democrats, who know their rights, and knowing will dare maintain them, from any future advancement in the party. Let all men who contributed to the late glorious victory stand by their guns.

The El Fronterizo, of Tucson, in its last publication, prints extracts from a letter from the City of Mexico, bearing date of November 22, in which it says Carlos Ortiz has had a hearing with President Gozales, and explained the cause of the late Sonora difficulties, and has also received permission and the support of the general government to complete his term of office as governor of the state of Sonora.

On the sixth of this month a number of scientific men from Washington will visit Fort Selden to observe the transit of Venus.

ATTORNEY GENERAL BREWSTER, in his late report to Congress, makes a most sensible and timely suggestion when he recommends that an additional judge be appointed in all the Territories, or that a United States circuit judge be appointed as in the states. This is a subject which the EPITAPH has often had occasion to refer to, and urge upon our delegate in Congress to assist in accomplishing, and which we feel confident a Democratic Congress will grant.

The Irish Land League is dead. It is succeeded by the National League, the object of which is to bring about a reform of the land laws, secure the protection of Irish industry, and promote Irish interests generally. In this country the Land League organization still exists, but it will, doubtless, be remodeled on the National League plan.

A GERMAN engineer calculates the duration of a genuine, good steel rail, under the wear of twenty-four trains a day, at thirty years, and an iron rail at eleven years under the same wear. Therefore a steel rail is economy at three times the cost of the iron rail.

It is greatly to be feared that a little of the star-route mud will stick to the Plumed Knight before the new trials are over.

Lawrence Collins.
NATIVE OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, Limerick, Ireland. Left California, where he worked in the mines for many years, about ten years ago, to go to Arizona. Age 49 years. Any one knowing of him or his whereabouts, will greatly oblige by communicating with his brother, Michael Collins, 207 Clementine Street, San Francisco, Cal. 1916 d&w

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